



# EMC News

January 5, 2005

Volume 12, No. 1

## CHAIR'S REPORT

*Submitted by Steve Nicholson*



"May you live in exciting times"  
-- Confucius

The New Year shows much promise, and at our first meeting we will be establishing committees and setting priorities. Please come prepared to introduce your pet projects to the Council. On the National level, we can expect the assault on environmental quality to continue, but New York State will remain among the leaders in renewable energy standards, air quality enforcement, and watershed protection. Tompkins County is emerging as a nationally recognized "green community." The past work of the EMC has contributed to this, and as we continue our efforts to improve the quality of life here, we can hope that other communities around the nation will emulate our actions. This year, the launching of the "500 photovoltaic systems in 5 years program", citizen participation in the "10% energy reduction Challenge", and the beginning of the LEED-certified neighborhood behind Walmart will put us close to the tipping point on the path towards sustainability.

## EMC ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

*Submitted by Heather Filiberto*

I just want to remind EMC members that each of you are required to participate on at least one committee of the EMC. At the January organizational meeting we will identify projects and priorities that each of you are interested in working on this year, then create committees to be responsible for carrying out those projects. Steve Nicholson and I have identified the following list to get you started thinking about potential projects:

### Ongoing Projects

- County Towers Project Review
- SEQR Reviews
- Cities for Climate Protection Campaign
- Environmental Directory
- Open Burning Ban
- Adopt-a-highway clean ups

## Potential New Projects

- Wind tower ordinance/wind power
- Earthday 2005
- EMC website design
- Pesticide neighbor notification education
- UNA protection/protocols for additions/deletions
- Green Building Design

This list is just to start you thinking about the possibilities. We look forward to hearing your ideas at the meeting.

## NOMINATIONS BEING SOUGHT!

*Submitted by Heather Filiberto*



The Nominating Committee is seeking nominations for the 2005 EMC chairperson and three vice chairpersons. If you are interested, or would like to nominate an individual, please contact one of the following Nominating Committee members:

Kenny Christainson - Kennyc@ithaca.edu  
Neha Khana - nkhanha@binghamton.edu  
Steve Uzmman - Steveathillview@aol.com

## ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW COMMITTEE

*Submitted by Steve Uzmman*

The ERC did not meet in December for the usual reason: our meeting date falls within the holidays so who's going to attend? What is noteworthy is that the letter we sent to the DEC about Cornell's request to reduce their Lake Source Cooling monitoring responsibilities and the press release on it, after a couple of weeks of silence, finally began to draw some press. We had publicity on WHCU which was followed by an article in the Ithaca Times which was then followed by a front page article in the Ithaca Journal. Several letters to the editor have been published in both papers since then. More activity on this issue is in the works by several individuals/groups so we will follow this up in the new year.

*more News!*

**NEW MEMBERS!**

You'll be seeing some new faces at EMC meetings. Please welcome our three new at-large members: Scott Doyle, Keith Epstein, and Mark Whitmore.

**NEW EMC MEMBER ORIENTATION**

Wednesday, January 12th at 6:30pm

*Submitted by Heather Filiberto*

I hope this will serve to familiarize new members with the EMC's structure, purpose and responsibilities. If anyone is interested in attending, please feel free. Steve and I will cover new member information and then answer questions.

**EMC NEWS REMINDER**

The *EMC News* was established to provide a convenient way for EMC committees to report their regular activities. The hope was to keep members updated on current events and to allow more time for guest speakers and discussion at the regular EMC meetings. Feel free to forward your committee reports and other items of interest each month for inclusion in the *News*. The *EMC News* not only reaches EMC members, but also local elected officials and other interested parties. It's a great way to keep everyone informed.

**See you at the next EMC meeting!**

January 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm

The County Clerk will attend the January meeting to administer the oath of office for all new and re-appointed EMC members:

Glynn Bebee, Kenny Christianson,  
John Dennis, Scott Doyle, Karen Edelstein,  
Herb Engman, Keith Epstein, Dan Lamb,  
Larry Sharpsteen, Steve Uzmann,  
and Mark Whitmore.

Please be prompt!

Remember to notify the Chair if you  
will be absent!

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